

THE RAHL HOUSE
663-669 Canyon Road,
Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, New Mexico.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Southwest District

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
John Gaw Meem, District Officer,
Camino del Monte Sol, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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Owner: West seven rooms, Antonio Rael, 663-667 Canyon Road,
Santa Fe, New Mexico; east five rooms, Julius Gans, 225 Lincoln
Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Date of Erection: 1866.

Architect: None.

Builder: Jose Ignacio Rael.

Present Condition: Fair; recently remodeled on interior and exterior; three rooms added to west end; west end of portal destroyed, flagstone floor of portal removed and replaced with concrete slab; composition roof laid over original adobe soil roof, except over rooms G, K and L.

Number of Stories: one.

Materials of construction: Foundation, field stone with adobe mortar; floors, pine, oak and earth, on portal, cement; walls, exterior and interior, adobe brick with adobe mortar; ceilings, wood, cloth and plaster; roof, adobe soil over wood sheathing, with composition roofing applied over the soil on a large portion of the roof; trim, wood; lime plaster on interior and exterior; coping, concrete and brick.

Other Existing Records: None available.

Additional Data: The building has been remodeled, within the last fifteen years, by the addition of the three rooms, I, J and L, at the west end. The remodeling included alterations in room H of the original building, which consisted of a new floor of 1" x 2" oak, new plaster on interior walls, and a furred ceiling of lath and plaster. The parapet walls of the addition has a coping of poured concrete. Similar copings were installed over some of the parapet walls of the original building. Portions of the main roof and that over the portal received a composition roof laid down over the original adobe soil roof. The west end of the portal, adjacent to room H was demolished and never rebuilt. The flagstone floor of the portal was removed and replaced with a concrete slab. The cut stone curbing, enclosing the original portal

floor is still in place. The bases of portal columns are concrete. These were originally cut stone.

The roof, as originally constructed, consisted of six to ten inches of adobe soil over boards of random width laid across logs (vigas) eight to ten inches in diameter approximately two feet on centers. The vigas and roof boards were exposed. Most of the rooms in the original building, used as living quarters, now have a cloth ceiling stretched across the room a few feet below the original ceiling. These in the case of rooms F and G have wall paper, applied to the ceiling cloth. The cloth is used by the natives to prevent dust from the roof falling into the room.

The floors in the original building, except room H, are pine, 6 to 12 inches wide, laid on wood joists.

The roof spouts now in use are of wood construction and galvanized metal. Originally they were short logs, 6 to 8 inches in diameter, gouged out on top to form a trough.

The building has been in continuous use as a residence of the Rael family to the present time. The five rooms at the east end were sold to Mr. Julius Gans a few years ago. These rooms are, at present, occupied by Diego Gamez, an employee of Mr. Gans. The balance of the house is occupied by Antonio Rael, grandson of the builder, and his nephew. The room L is used by Mr. Rael's nephew as a garage and room K is used as a store room by the Rael family.

The foregoing information was furnished verbally by the builder's grandson, Antonio Rael, 663-667 Canyon Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Trent Thomas

Trent Thomas,
Architect in Charge,
HABS, Southwest Unit.

Approved October 1 1940

John Gaw Meem
John Gaw Meem,
District Officer.

TW 10/28/40